

**Amendments to the Claims:**

1. (Previously Presented) A method for identifying useful data, said method comprising:
  - providing electronic access to a plurality of databases;
  - accepting search information vector data from a user;
  - utilizing said information vector data to access at least one database of said plurality of databases to identify at least a portion of said useful data therein; and
  - utilizing said at least a portion of said useful data identified in said at least one database using said information vector to access at least another database of said plurality of databases to identify another portion of said useful data therein, wherein said another portion of said useful data is not directly identified from said information vector, and wherein said utilizing said at least a portion of said useful data is performed automatically without input from said user to direct access with respect to said at least another database.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said plurality of databases comprise a plurality of law enforcement databases.
3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said plurality of databases comprise a calling services database and an inmate records database.
4. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein said plurality of databases further comprise a commissary services database.
5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein one or more of said plurality of databases are geographically dispersed.
6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said electronic access is provided at least in part through a justice information network.
7. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein said justice information network provides information communication between a plurality of information management systems disposed at different sites for providing data processing functionality for associated ones of said different sites.

8. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein said different sites include sites selected from the group consisting of government offices, investigative services, and prison facilities.

9. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein search information vectors for which said search information vector data is accepted comprise contacts information.

10. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein search information vectors for which said search information vector data is accepted comprise inmate information.

11. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein search information vectors for which said search information vector data is accepted comprise suspect information.

12. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein search information vectors for which said search information vector data is accepted comprise end party information.

13. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein search information vectors for which said search information vector data is accepted comprise flow of funds information.

14. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein search information vectors for which said search information vector data is accepted comprise initial contact information.

15. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein search information vectors for which said search information vector data is accepted comprise public data information.

16. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said at least a portion of said useful data is identified by a confluence of search information vectors.

17. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said another portion of said useful data is identified by a confluence of search information vectors.

18. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
presenting said at least a portion of said useful data and said another portion of said useful data to said user.

19. (Original) The method of claim 18, wherein said at least a portion of said useful data and said another portion of said useful data are presented graphically.

20. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein said graphical presentation includes graphically showing details with respect to the relationship between said at least a portion of said useful data and said another portion of said useful data.

21. (Original) The method of claim 20, wherein said graphical details comprise a relative strength of the relationship between said at least a portion of said useful data and said another portion of said useful data shown using a line therebetween.

22. (Original) The method of claim 18, wherein said at least a portion of said useful data and said another portion of said useful data are presented to show a relationship between said at least a portion of said useful data and said another portion of said useful data.

23. (Original) The method of claim 18, wherein said at least a portion of said useful data and said another portion of said useful data are presented as an alert to said user to notify said user of a condition of interest to said user.

24. (Original) The method of claim 23, wherein said user is one of a plurality of users to which said alert is broadcast.

25. (Original) The method of claim 18, wherein said at least a portion of said useful data and said another portion of said useful data are presented to said user as a dossier of an individual.

26. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said utilizing said information vector data to identify at least a portion of said useful data and said utilizing said at least a portion of said useful data to identify another portion of said useful data are performed after an event for post-event analysis of data.

27. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said utilizing said information vector data to identify at least a portion of said useful data and said utilizing said at least a portion of said useful data to identify another portion of said useful data are performed before an event for pre-event analysis of data.

28. (Original) The method of claim 27, wherein said pre-event analysis of data is utilized to proactively identify problems.

29. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said utilizing said at least a portion of said useful data from said at least one database to access at least another database of said plurality of databases to identify another portion of said useful data therein comprises pattern matching to identify said another portion of said useful data.

30. (Original) The method of claim 29, wherein said at least a portion of said useful data and said another portion of said useful data are utilized in automatically identifying an individual as a potential suspect in an investigation.

31. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said at least a portion of said useful data comprises particular content of a communication selected from the group consisting of a telephone call, a video communication, and an electronic mail communication.

32. (Currently Amended) A method for identifying useful data available in at least one electronic database, said method comprising:

utilizing a plurality of search information vectors to identify said useful data in said at least one database relevant to a particular query input by a user, wherein at least one search information vector of said plurality of search information vectors is associated with different search directions; [[and]]

identifying confluence of portions of said ~~relevant~~ useful data identified by said plurality of search information ~~vectors~~; vectors; and

utilizing said confluence of portions of said useful data to access one or more additional databases to identify another portion of said useful data, wherein said another portion of said useful data is not directly identified from said plurality of search

information vectors, and wherein said utilizing said confluence is performed automatically without additional input from said user.

33. (Canceled)

34. (Original) The method of claim 32, wherein said at least one electronic database comprises a plurality of law enforcement databases.

35. (Original) The method of claim 34, wherein ones of said plurality of law enforcement databases are geographically dispersed.

36. (Original) The method of claim 32, wherein said at least one electronic database further comprises a public records database.

37. (Original) The method of claim 32, wherein said plurality of search information vectors comprise at least two search information vectors selected from the group consisting of contacts information, inmate information, suspect information, end party information, flow of funds information, initial contact information, and public data information.

38. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 32, further comprising:  
presenting said portions of said relevant data for which said confluence is identified to [[a]] said user.

39. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 38, wherein said portions of said relevant data for which said confluence is identified is presented graphically.

40. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 39, wherein said graphical presentation includes graphically showing details with respect to relationships between said portions of said relevant data for which said confluence is identified and other data graphically presented.

41. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 40, wherein said graphical details comprise a relative strength of the relationship between said portions of said relevant data for which said confluence is identified and said other data graphically presented shown using a line therebetween.

42. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 39, wherein said graphical presentation includes graphically representing availability of data related to said portions of said relevant data for which said confluence is identified and other data graphically presented.

43. (Original) The method of claim 42, wherein said related data comprises content of a communication between individuals.

44. (Original) The method of claim 42, wherein said related data comprises an icon representing a form of communication between individuals.

45. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 32, further comprising:  
presenting an alert to [[a]] said user as a result of identifying said confluence of said portions of said relevant data.

46. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 45, wherein said confluence of said portions of said relevant data indicates a condition for which said user has subscribed to alert notifications.

47-54. (Canceled)

55. (New) A method for collecting related information from a plurality of databases, comprising:

receiving user input data identifying initial search vectors;

querying the plurality of databases using a first query created based upon the initial search vectors;

receiving first results from at least one of the plurality of databases;

analyzing the first results to identify second level search vectors;

without further user input, querying the plurality of databases using a second query

created based upon the second level search vectors; and  
receiving second results from at least one of the plurality of databases.

56. (New) The method of claim 55, further comprising:  
analyzing the second level results to identify third level search vectors;  
without further user input, querying the plurality of databases using a third query  
created based upon the third level search vectors; and  
receiving third results from at least one of the plurality of databases.

57. (New) The method of claim 55, further comprising:  
providing a user interface for downloading by the user.

58. (New) The method of claim 57, wherein the user interface is a customized  
browser that provides a connection to a network hub providing access to the plurality of  
databases.

59. (New) The method of claim 55, further comprising:  
analyzing the first results to identify interrelated results from two or more of the  
plurality of databases, and  
using the interrelated results to generate the second level search vectors.

60. (New) The method of claim 59, wherein the user and each of the plurality  
of databases has been assigned a security level; and further comprising:  
querying only those of the plurality of databases for which the user's security level  
allows access.

61. (New) The method of claim 55, further comprising:  
displaying the first results to the user as first icons on a graphical interface, the  
first icons linked to the user by a line; and  
displaying the second results to the user as second icons, the second icons linked to  
first icons associated with first results that were used to generate the second query.

62. (New) The method of claim 55, wherein the second level search vectors  
are generated from the first results using fuzzy logic.

63. (New) The method of claim 55, wherein the first results are received from two more of the plurality of databases, and wherein the second level search vectors are generated by identifying overlapping data in two or more of the first results.